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Susan J. Cave

December 13, 2001

Mayor Michael Coleman City Hall 90 West Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Mayor Coleman

The Ohio Municipal League Board of Trustees met today and adopted during the regular course of business a resolution supporting the City of Columbus' Metropolitan Facilities Plan Update.

I will be sending a letter to the Governor and the Ohio EPA Director urging approval of the "plan update" as submitted by the city.

thought you might be interested

If you have questions, please feel free to call

Sincerely,

Susan J. Cave

Executive Director

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE POSITION OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS AND OTHER CENTRAL OHIO MUNICIPALITIES THAT THE COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN FACILITIES PLAN UPDATE MUST BE APPROVED BY THE OHIO EPA

- WHEREAS, the City of Columbus and its central Ohio neighboring municipalities, including the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission have worked diligently and have agreed upon the "Columbus Metropolitan Facilities Plan Update" (11-3-00) ("the Columbus Area Plan") for wastewater treatment, and
- WHEREAS, it is widely reported that representatives of the Ohio EPA have indicated that the locally developed plan will not be approved, but an Ohio EPA developed alternative to the Columbus Area Plan that would allow alternative systems and methods of treatment would be approved, and
- WHEREAS, this Board believes that the Ohio EPA would be pursuing an unwise course by not approving a locally developed area plan, and
- WHEREAS, areawide waste treatment management is recognized by Congress under the terms of the Clean Water Act to be the environmentally superior method of wastewater treatment; and
- WHEREAS, this Board believes the public interest of the vast majority of urban citizens, and the environment, will be best served if local officials devise appropriate methods of solving environmental problems, rather than state bureaucrats that do not face the necessity of the overall provision of services in an efficient manner, and
- WHEREAS, this Board believes that the precedent of the preemption of local planning and development must not be commenced by the Ohio EPA by its rejection of the Columbus Area Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Municipal League:

Section 1. The Executive Director of the Ohio Municipal League shall provide a copy of this resolution to the Director of the Ohio EPA and the Governor of the State of Ohio together with a letter urging that the Columbus Area Plan be approved as submitted by the local officials participating in its development.

<u>Section 2.</u> This Resolution shall take effect immediately.